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Red Diplomats in U.S. Are Accused

Majority Branded "Subversive" At House Subcommittee's Quiz, Opening in San Francisco

A large percentage of "Iron Curtain" country diplomats stationed in the United States are engaged in activities subversive to our government, a House Un-American Activities subcommittee was told today in San Francisco.

Richard Arens, committee counsel, said that the names of 100 diplomats from Russian dominated countries, were turned over to the Central Intelligence Agency for screening.

Of this total, Arens said, the CIA reported that 32 were active in intelligence work for their government, 21 were engaged in communist activities, and 29 others were involved in other forms of subversive activities.

Arens made his remarks as a U.S. customs official testified that it is a practice for the "Iron Curtain" countries to ship large amounts of literature and propaganda material to their legations and diplomatic offices in the United States. The material is then forwarded to readers in this nation.

FOUR MAGAZINES

Arens produced four foreign English language magazines which he said were purchased "in a Bay Area bookstore on Friday."

Irving Fishman, New York deputy customs collector, who was a witness at the time, identified two of them as magazines which "consistently handle propaganda."

Fishman said the U.S. Customs Service does not recommend censoring the propaganda. "We only say it should be labeled for what it is."

He said that of 4,500,000 pieces of printed material examined at U.S. ports of entry and detected as having come from Soviet

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sources, most were improperly labelled in violation of the Foreign Agents Registration Act.

LARGE EXPENDITURE

Arens said it is estimated that the Soviets are spending \$3,000,000,000 a year on propaganda, \$400,000,000 a year alone in India.

Subcommittee Chairman Clyde Doyle of California opened the session by warning that evidence gathered by the group in Chicago, Washington and Los Angeles presents a "shocking picture."

He charged that a "dedicated core of militant communists" is attempting to enlist the American people by propaganda and infiltration to rob them of their legal defenses "against ultimate domination by conspirators loyal only to the Kremlin."

First witnesses called this morning were U.S. Customs officials.

Fishman said that 156,575 packages of mail arriving in San Francisco from the Orient were examined during the months of August, September and October.

LARGELY PROPAGANDA

Of this amount, 490,330 pieces of printed matter appeared to be propaganda and "most of it originated in the Soviet Union or red China and was shipped here through Hong Kong."

He said the literature, as well as news reels and feature films, generally speaks, against the United States and United States policies.

Customs officials brought bags full of mail as evidence for the committee.

Arens, committee counsel, said 20 witnesses "friendly and unfriendly" have been summoned before the subcommittee. He named only Louis Goldblatt, secretary-treasurer of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, as one of the principal witnesses. Arens said the committee wanted to

talk to Goldblatt about "bringing propaganda into the U.S."

At a press conference in the Fairmont Hotel yesterday, Arens and Rep. Gordon Sherer of Ohio, a subcommittee member, said that San Francisco was one of the 40 ports of entry for communist propaganda from Soviet countries.

They said that "tens of thousands of pieces of communist literature" are entering the United States. In San Francisco a clamor for the repeal of the Smith Act, the Internal Security Act and security provisions of

the Immigration and Nationality Act.

The subcommittee comes to San Francisco after three days of stormy hearing in Los Angeles. Six persons had to be hustled out of the hearing rooms during the Southern California sessions.

SOLE PURPOSE

Both Arens and Scherer said that testimony gathered to date "clearly shows that the communists are under directions to infiltrate non-communist groups to stir up opposition to the McCarran-Walter Immigration Act."

Both emphasized that many legitimate groups and agencies want changes in the legislation and they are concerned only with communist front groups whose sole purpose is repealing security laws.

Arens said he believed the communist party was a "serious danger" to the United States now because "the namby-pamby intellectual dupe has long since been discarded and the hard core has been solidified."

Besides Arens and Scherer, subcommittee members here are Rep. Clyde Doyle of South Gate, Calif., and Rep. Harold Velde of Illinois.

In a statement issued today, the American Civil Liberties Union of Northern California condemned the hearings as "grossly unfair, unnecessary, a waste of the taxpayers' money, and violative of the right of free speech."

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